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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY
INFORMATION REPORT

COUNTRY Albania

SUBJECT Kukes Airfield

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THIS IS UNEVALUATED INFORMATION

1.

Location

2. "This airfield is located approximately 1 km southwest of Kukes, 500 m above sea level. It is located in forested area west of the Black Drin River.

Construction

3. "The airfield was projected by the Italians during World War II. Construction began in 1949 and ended in March 1950. A special road, eight m wide, was built between the airfield and Kukes. This road is not asphalted, as is the road leading from Kukes to Shkoder.

Security

4. "There are no 'block posts' on the road leading to the airfield. Sentries are posted at the four corners of the airfield. The field is surrounded by barbed wire fencing two m high.

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Runway

5. "The field has one runway running from southwest to northeast. Take-offs and landings proceed in a northeast direction. The runway is made of reinforced concrete covered with asphalt. The remainder of the airfield surface is plain grass. There is no platform at the end of the runway.

Serviceability

6. "Heavy rain does not render the field unserviceable. The soil is argillaceous (clay). However, there is very dense fog during the winter and fog almost every mornin, during the summer. This is because the Drina River (Black branch) runs next to the airfield.

Hangar

7. "There is only one hangar. It is built of steel and is about 100 x 50 x 10 m in size [redacted] also [redacted] four shelters for planes, each a slight depression in the ground.

Aircraft

8. [redacted] in May 1950 [redacted] four planes, one in each of the shelters. They were covered with camouflage. They appeared to be three-engine B-2 planes. At least B-2 appeared to be the inscription on the fuselage. [redacted] in 1951 there did not seem to be more than four planes there.

Personnel

9. "The field has two brick barracks. [redacted] in April 1951 it was being used by both the Soviet and the Albanian Air Force. [redacted]

[redacted] sketch of this Kukes airfield, It is drawn to scale:

1 m - 100 m. The following legend applies:

- "A - Hangar
 - B - Brick barrack (one floor)
 - C - Brick barrack (one floor)
 - D - Brick workshop (one floor)
 - E - Aircraft shelter, one for each plane. These are actually depressions in the ground, about one m deep, decreasing to a slight angle.
 - F - Sentry posts
 - R - Runway
 - M - Main entrance
- Forest and terrain are also indicated."

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